

**2006 Annual Report
and
2008 Service Goals**



Foluké Cultural Arts Center was organized as a faith-based initiative in 2002 at Lane Metropolitan CME Church and became community-based non-profit organization in February, 2003. The word Foluké (Foh LOO' keh) originates from the West African Region of Nigeria meaning "placed in god's care". The West African Adinkra symbol Gye Nyame (Jeh NYAH' mae) originates from Ghana and represents the immortality of god.



***Foluké Cultural Arts Center, Inc is a 501c3
Organization Committed to providing After School
Arts Activities for Children and Youth***



Foluké Cultural Arts Center is committed to making performing arts and arts education available to all, particularly those who live in "underserved" areas. The programming of Foluké is family oriented with focus on at-risk children and youth. The goal is to provide positive alternatives to negative behaviors by instilling discipline, self-pride and boosting self-confidence through self-expression and self-discovery. The goal of the Youth Component of *ArtsLinc*, or Learning in the Arts program is to boost learning and achievement, and empower children to develop critical life skills such as commitment, follow-through and teamwork. The goal of the Senior component is to utilize the visual and performing arts to stimulate positive attitudes towards aging.

Arts education is central to a youth's individual and social development. Research shows it raises overall academic performance and builds skills necessary for workplace success.

The arts excel in helping students develop thinking skills (creative thinking decision making, problem solving, imagining and imaging, and knowing how to learn); social skills (speaking and listening, cooperative work, capacity to teach others, negotiation and conflict resolution skills, and tolerance for differences), and personal skills (individual responsibility, perseverance, self management, and integrity).

The future of this country is being shaped by the development of our youth, and U.S. communities need to consider the dramatic and promising results gained by establishing arts learning partnerships for youth at-risk: A child's education is not complete unless it includes the arts, and access to arts education in our schools is eroding.



The economically disadvantaged Children and Youth of Cleveland Ohio need innovative intervention to overcome their environment, in order to become productive and successful adults. Failure to address the educational achievement needs of this population will result in a generation lost.

In 2007 we serviced 1,000 people through performance and actual participation. The newly implemented *ArtsLinc* Outreach program 25 Senior Citizens and over 100 children. Dance Classes and Art Workshops serviced 25 children and Youth

Goals for 2008

- ◆ Expand *ArtsLinc* (in-school) Outreach Program at George Washington Carver Elementary School to include upper primary grades and implement after-school programming for the middle school grades.
- ◆ Relocate Foluke to the Cedar Central area to be more accessible to their targeted population for out-of -school programming and Senior Citizen participation.
- ◆ Re-start Dance, Visual Arts and Theater Classes in the Fall



Private contributions allow us to continue serving the Children and Youth of Cleveland. Your tax deductible donation is greatly appreciated. Make checks or money orders payable to Foluké Cultural Arts Center. All major credit cards accepted. Donations can be made online at www.folukeculturalarts.org. Thank You.

Foluké Cultural Arts Center, Inc.

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Dava A. Cansler,
 Founder/Executive Director



George Washington Carver Presentation at
 George Washington Carver Elementary School



Dance Classes in
 Dancing Wheels
 Studios at
 Cleveland Masonic &
 Performance Arts
 Center

2007 Achievements



ArtsLinc
 Youth
 Component
 GWC

January, 2007

◆ Dance and theater classes were held from January thru May in the Dancing Wheels Studios and the Lower Level Conference areas of the Cleveland Masonic and Performance Arts Center. Full Scholarships were offered to George Washington Carver Students.

February 2007

◆ Theater Students along with the Theater Instructor, Stephen Hood, performed at Cleveland City Hall in honor of Black History Month. George Washington Carver (aka Stephen Hood), also delivered a monologue at this event.

March 2007

◆ The Senior Citizen and Youth components of the *ArtsLinc* pilot were implemented. The Senior Citizens component, an arts and crafts workshop; beadmaking, was implemented at the Murtis Taylor Multi-Service Center for 6 weeks. The Youth component, theater training, was implemented during the day, for 45 days at George Washington Carver Elementary School for approximately 100 First and Second Graders

July 2007

◆ Fund Raiser - First Annual Cotton Ball



ArtsLinc Youth Component
 Kwanzaa Presentation/Rehearsal
 George Washington Carver Elementary School



Black History Month Observance
 Cleveland City Hall

September 2007

◆ *ArtsLinc* Theater Classes were implemented at George Washington Carver Elementary School during the day, for five Second and Third Grade Classes. Each class had two sessions per week. Foluké staffers were on-site three times a week. Classes met September thru December.

December 2007

◆ Over 80 Second and Third graders from George Washington Carver Elementary School presented the Seven Principles of Kwanzaa dialogue, or "Call and Response" in two Holiday programs held at the school. These students also sang a song, complete with dance movements, written specifically for them by the Foluké staff.



Theater Classes
 Cleveland Masonic & Performance Arts Center



ArtsLinc
 Senior Component



Murtis Taylor
 Multi-Purpose
 Center

